CLAIMS

1. A method for minimizing scarring and/or preventing excessive scar formation at an injury site, the method comprising applying to the injury site a first aid bandaging material that has been coated, irradiated or impregnated with a therapeutically effective amount of a defibrinogenating agent.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said first aid bandaging material is a bandage or gauze pad.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said defibrinogenating agent is chosen from the group consisting of ancrod, urokinase, streptokinase, phenobarbital and valproic acid.

4. A method for minimizing scarring and/or preventing excessive scar formation at an injury site, the method comprising applying to the injury site a first aid bandaging material that has been coated, irradiated or impregnated with, a therapeutically effective amount of a fibrinolytic agent.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said fibrinolytic agent is chosen from the group consisting of tissue-plasminogen activator (t-PA), recombinant tissue-plasminogen activator (rt-PA), advance-generation fibrates and a fibrinolytic derivative of recombinant tissue-plasminogen activator.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said fibrinolytic derivative of recombinant tissue-plasminogen activator is chosen from the group consisting of reteplase (rPA), lanoteplase (nPA) and tenecteplase (TNK-tPA).

7. The method of claim 5, wherein said advance-generation fibrate is fenofibrate.

8. A method for minimizing scarring and/or preventing excessive scar formation at an injury site, the method comprising the use of sutures or dissolvable sutures to close the wound site, wherein said sutures or dissolvable sutures have been coated, irradiated or impregnated with a therapeutically effective amount of a defibrinogenating agent.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein said defibrinogenating agent is chosen from the group consisting of ancrod, urokinase, streptokinase, phenobarbital and valproic acid.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein said defibrinogenating agent is ancrod.

11. A method for minimizing scarring and/or preventing excessive scar formation at an injury site, the method comprising the use of sutures or dissolvable sutures that have been coated, irradiated or impregnated with a therapeutically effective amount of a fibrinolytic agent, to close the wound site.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein said fibrinolytic agent is chosen from the group consisting of tissue-plasminogen activator (t-PA), recombinant tissue-plasminogen activator (rt-PA), fibrinolytic derivatives of recombinant tissue-plasminogen activator, advance-generation fibrates.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said fibrinolytic derivative of recombinant tissue-plasminogen activator is chosen from the group consisting of reteplase (rPA), lanoteplase (nPA) and tenecteplase (TNK-tPA).

14. The method of claim 11 wherein said fibrate is fenofibrate.